

index information to said multimedia file.

*A1  
Cancelled*

34. (New) A managing apparatus for a multimedia file managing said multimedia file with index information, including:

an index information generating section generating index information including a source identifier expressing a file different from said multimedia file; and  
an index information attaching section recording said index information onto a recording medium, attaching said index information to said multimedia file.

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**REMARKS**

Claims 1 – 15 have been cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 16 through 34 have been added. The relationships between the new claims and the former claims (see "Annex to International Preliminary Examination Report enclosed herewith) is as follows:

- (1) Claim 16 is the former claim 1.
- (2) Claim 17 is the former claim 4 dependent from former claim 1.
- (3) Claim 18 is the former dependent claim 5.
- (4) Claim 19 is the former claim 2.
- (5) Claim 20 is the former claim 3.
- (6) Claim 21 is the former claim 4 dependent from former claim 2.
- (7) Claims 22 is the former claim 6.
- (8) Claim 23 is the former claim 8 dependent from former claim 6.

- (9) Claim 24 is the former claim 9 dependent from former claims 6 and 8.
- (10) Claim 25 is the former claim 10 dependent from former claim 6.
- (11) Claims 26 to 28 are the former claims 11 to 13, respectively.
- (12) Claim 29 is the former claim 7.
- (13) Claim 30 is the former claim 8 dependent from former claim 7.
- (14) Claim 31 is the former claim 9 dependent from former claims 7 and 8.
- (15) Claim 32 is the former claim 10 dependent from former claim 7.
- (16) Claims 33 and 34 are the former independent claims 14 and 15, respectively.

It is respectfully requested that the references cited in connection with the parent application, USSN 09/096,989, filed June 12, 1998, be considered in connection with the present application.

The specification was amended to indicate the continuing status of the present case and identify the parent application.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for immediate allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

Applicants believe that additional fees are not required for consideration of the within Preliminary Amendment. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

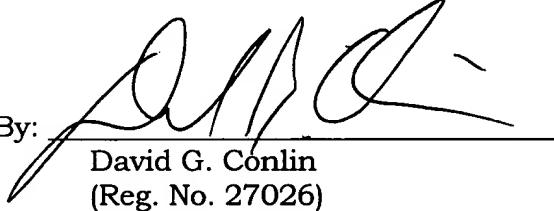
Masahiro Shioi, et al  
U.S.S.N. Not Yet Assigned  
Preliminary Amendment  
Page 10

The undersigned respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the phone/fax/email address given below, should it appear that the undersigned can do anything to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 8, 2001

By:



David G. Conlin  
(Reg. No. 27026)  
Dike, Bronstein, Roberts & Cushman  
Intellectual Property Practice Group  
EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP  
130 Water Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 523-3400 Phone  
(617) 523-6440 Facsimile  
[DConlin@EALaw.com](mailto:DConlin@EALaw.com)